BROWNING®

A-BOLT® SHOTGUN

BOLT-ACTION SHOTGUN
OWNER'S MANUAL

Important operating instructions for:

BROWNING A-BOLT® SHOTGUNS

If you have any questions about your new firearm, this owner's manual or other Browning products, contact:

Browning Customer Service
One Browning Place
Morgan, UT 84050-9326
Phone: (800) 333-3288
browning.com

Please use the space below to record information about your new firearm.

Model _____

Serial Number _____

Purchased From _____

Date of Purchase _____

THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING A BROWNING A-BOLT SHOTGUN.

The Browning A-Bolt Shotgun is designed to look, shoot and feel like a rifle to give you the advantage when hunting deer with slug ammunition. The fully rifled barrel provides exceptional accuracy. These firearms are designed with proven features for excellent performance and accuracy.

With a reasonable amount of care, your A-Bolt Shotgun is designed to give you many years of dependable, enjoyable service.

CONTENTS PAGE

You are Responsible for Firearms Safety 2
General Description and Operation 9
Nomenclature 9
Serial Number 9
Initial Cleaning 10
Operation of the "Safety" 11
Cocking Indicator 12
Inserting and Removing the Bolt 12
Ammunition 14
Magazine Capacity 15
Loading 15
Firing 19
Unloading 20
Sight Adjustment 21
Mounting a Scope 22
Trigger Adjustment 23
Cleaning and Maintenance Suggestions 25
Cleaning the Magazine 28
Service or Repair 29

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR FIREARMS SAFETY

⚠WARNING

FAILURE TO FOLLOW ANY OF THE FOLLOWING WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

As a gun owner, you accept a set of demanding responsibilities. How seriously you take these responsibilities can be the difference between life and death.

There is no excuse for careless or abusive handling of any firearm. At all times handle this firearm and all other firearms with intense respect for their power and potential danger.

Please read and understand all of the cautions, warnings, notices, proper handling procedures and instructions outlined in this owner's manual before using your new firearm.

1 **ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE OF YOUR FIREARM POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION EVEN THOUGH YOU ARE CERTAIN IT IS UNLOADED.**
Never point any firearm at anything you do not intend to shoot. Be extremely alert and aware of all persons and property within the range of your ammunition.

2 **NEVER RELY TOTALLY ON YOUR FIREARM'S MECHANICAL "SAFETY" DEVICE. LIKE ANY MECHANICAL DEVICE, A "SAFETY" CAN SOMETIMES FAIL; IT CAN BE JARRED OR INADVERTENTLY MANIPULATED INTO AN UNSAFE CONDITION.**
The word "safety" describes a firearm's trigger block mechanism, sear block mechanism, hammer block mechanism or firing pin block mechanism. Mechanical "safeties" are designed to place your firearm in a safer status, and no guarantee can be made that the firearm will not fire even if the "safety" is in the on safe position. Mechanical "safeties" merely aid safe gun handling and are no excuse for pointing your firearm's muzzle in an unsafe direction. See "Operation of the Safety" on page 11 for instructions on the operation of this firearm's "safety."

Remember, safe gun handling does not stop with your firearm's mechanical "safety" devices, it starts there. Always treat this firearm with the respect due a loaded, ready-to-fire firearm.

Some firearms do not have a mechanical "safety." Many target firearms, lever-action firearms and pistols do not have manual "safety" mechanisms. Therefore it is critical to read and understand the owner's manual for every firearm which explains the safe operation of the firearm.

While it is a good idea to "test" your firearm's mechanical "safety" periodically for proper function, never test the "safety" while your firearm is loaded or pointed in an unsafe direction.

3 WHENEVER YOU HANDLE ANY FIREARM, OR HAND IT TO SOMEONE, ALWAYS OPEN THE ACTION IMMEDIATELY AND VISUALLY CHECK THE FIREARM'S CHAMBER TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT THE FIREARM IS COMPLETELY UNLOADED.

Make certain the firearm does not inadvertently contain any ammunition. Remember, merely removing the magazine does not mean the chamber is unloaded. Always keep the chamber empty and the "safety" in the on safe position unless shooting is imminent.

4 ALWAYS WEAR EAR AND EYE PROTECTION WHEN SHOOTING.

Unprotected, repeated exposure to gunfire can cause hearing damage. Wear hearing protection (shooting ear plugs or muffs) to guard against such damage.

Wear shooting glasses to protect your eyes from flying particles. Allow proper distance (eye relief) between a scope and your eye when firing a scoped rifle, shotgun or pistol. Do not use unorthodox shooting methods that could cause the rearward travel of the slide or bolt of a firearm to contact your eyes, face or hands. Always keep a safe distance between the muzzle of your firearm and any persons nearby, as muzzle blast, debris and ejecting shells could inflict serious injury.

Always wear eye protection when disassembling and cleaning any firearm to prevent the possibility of springs, spring-tensioned parts, solvents or other agents from contacting your eyes.

5 KEEP ALL FIREARMS UNLOADED DURING TRANSPORT, EVEN WHEN STORED IN A HOLSTER, GUN CASE, SCABBARD OR OTHER CONTAINER.

6 DROPPING OR JARRING A LOADED FIREARM CAN CAUSE ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE.

This can occur even with the "safety" in the on safe position. Be extremely careful while hunting or during any shooting activity to avoid dropping any firearm.

7 HUNTING FROM ELEVATED SURFACES SUCH AS TREESTANDS IS DANGEROUS.

Doing so may increase the risk of mishandling a firearm. The following rules should always be observed by you and those you hunt with. Always make certain that the stand being used is safe and stable. Always make certain that your firearm is unloaded when it is being taken up and down from the stand. Always make certain that your firearm is not dropped from the stand, or dropped while it is being taken up or down from the stand. Remember, a loaded firearm may discharge when dropped, even with the "safety" in the on safe position.

8 STORE YOUR FIREARM AND AMMUNITION SEPARATELY, WELL BEYOND THE REACH OF CHILDREN.

Take prudent safeguards to ensure your firearm does not become available to untrained, inexperienced or unwelcome hands. Store all firearms in secure, locked cases or a gun safe. Keep your firearm unloaded when not in use.

9 BEWARE OF BARREL OBSTRUCTIONS.

Mud, snow and an infinite variety of other objects may inadvertently lodge in a barrel bore. It only takes a small obstruction to cause dangerously increased pressures that

can damage your firearm and cause serious injury to yourself and others.

BEFORE CHECKING FOR A BARREL OBSTRUCTION, BE CERTAIN YOUR FIREARM IS COMPLETELY UNLOADED, THERE IS NOT A LIVE SHELL IN THE CHAMBER AND THE "SAFETY" IS IN THE ON SAFE POSITION.

After assuring yourself that the firearm is completely unloaded, open the breech or action and look through the barrel to be sure it is clear of obstructions. If an obstruction is seen, no matter how small it may be, clean the bore with a cleaning rod and patch as described on page 27 of this owner's manual.

10 **BE ALERT TO THE SIGNS OF AMMUNITION MALFUNCTION. IF YOU DETECT AN OFF SOUND OR LIGHT RECOIL WHEN A SHELL IS FIRED, DO NOT LOAD ANOTHER SHELL INTO THE CHAMBER.**

If your shotgun fails to fire, keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction for a minimum of 30 seconds. Rotate the ejection area of the firearm away from you, carefully open the action and remove the shell from the chamber. If the primer is indented, the defective cartridge should be disposed of in a way that cannot cause harm. If the primer is not indented, your firearm should be examined by a qualified gunsmith and the cause of the malfunction corrected before further use. Glance down the barrel to make sure that no obstructions remain in the barrel. Completely clear the barrel before loading and firing again. Failure to follow these instructions can cause extensive damage to your firearm and possible serious injury to yourself and others.

11 **NEVER INSERT A SHELL OF THE INCORRECT GAUGE INTO ANY FIREARM.**

The gauge of your firearm is marked on the barrel. Store all shells of different gauges in completely separate and well-marked containers. Never store shells of mixed gauges in a common container or in your pockets. See page 14 for more information on the correct ammunition for your firearm.

12 EXAMINE EVERY SHELL YOU PUT IN YOUR FIREARM.

We assume no responsibility for the use of unsafe or improper firearm and ammunition combinations or damage or injury caused by damaged ammunition. It is your responsibility to read and heed all warnings in this owner's manual and on ammunition boxes. See page 14 for more information on the correct ammunition for your firearm.

13 USE ONLY SAAMI APPROVED AMMUNITION.

The barrel and action of this firearm have been made with substantial safety margins beyond the pressures developed by established American commercial loads. Nevertheless, we can assume no liability for incidents which occur through the use of shells of nonstandard dimensions or which develop pressures in excess of commercially available ammunition which has been loaded in accordance with standards established by the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute (SAAMI).

14 MAKE SURE OF ADEQUATE VENTILATION IN THE AREA THAT YOU DISCHARGE A FIREARM. LEAD EXPOSURE CAN OCCUR FROM DISCHARGING FIREARMS IN POORLY VENTILATED AREAS, CLEANING FIREARMS OR HANDLING AMMUNITION.

Lead is a substance that has been known to cause birth defects, reproductive harm and other serious injury. Wash hands thoroughly after exposure to ammunition or after cleaning a firearm.

15 DO NOT SNAP THE FIRING PIN ON AN EMPTY CHAMBER; THE CHAMBER MAY NOT BE EMPTY!

Treat every firearm with the respect due a loaded firearm, even though you are certain the firearm is unloaded.

16 KEEP YOUR FINGERS AWAY FROM THE TRIGGER WHILE LOADING AND UNLOADING UNTIL SHOOTING IS IMMINENT.

17 BE SURE OF YOUR TARGET AND BACKSTOP, PARTICULARLY DURING LOW LIGHT PERIODS.

Know the range of your ammunition. Never shoot at water or hard objects.

18 ALWAYS UNLOAD YOUR FIREARM'S CHAMBER BEFORE CROSSING A FENCE, CLIMBING A TREE, JUMPING A DITCH OR NEGOTIATING OTHER OBSTACLES.

Never place your firearm on or against a fence, tree, car or other similar object.

19 BE DEFENSIVE AND ON GUARD AGAINST UNSAFE GUN HANDLING AROUND YOU AND OTHERS.

Don't be timid when it comes to firearm safety. If you observe other shooters violating any of these safety precautions, politely suggest safer handling practices.

20 BE CERTAIN YOUR FIREARM IS UNLOADED BEFORE CLEANING.

Because so many firearm accidents occur when a firearm is being cleaned, special and extreme care should be taken to be sure your firearm is unloaded before disassembly, cleaning and reassembly. Keep ammunition away from the cleaning location. Never test the mechanical function of any firearm with live ammunition.

21 TEACH AND SUPERVISE FIREARMS SAFETY TO ALL MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY, ESPECIALLY TO CHILDREN AND NON-SHOOTERS.

Closely supervise newcomers to the shooting sports. Encourage enrollment in hunting and shooting safety courses.

22 NEVER DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR TAKE ANY TYPE OF DRUGS BEFORE OR DURING SHOOTING.

Your vision, motor skills and judgment could be dangerously impaired, making your gun handling unsafe to you and to others.

23 READ AND HEED ALL WARNINGS IN THIS OWNER'S MANUAL, ON AMMUNITION BOXES AND WITH ALL ACCESSORIES THAT YOU INSTALL ON YOUR FIREARM.

It is your responsibility to secure the most up-to-date information on the safe handling procedures of your Browning firearm. We assume no liability for incidents which occur when unsafe or improper firearm accessories or ammunition combinations are used.

24 PRACTICE PERIODIC MAINTENANCE, AVOID UNAUTHORIZED SERVICING.

Your firearm is a mechanical device which will not last forever, and as such, is subject to wear and requires periodic inspection, adjustment and service. Browning firearms should be serviced by a Browning Recommended Service Center or by our Service Facility in Arnold, Missouri. We assume no responsibility for injuries suffered or caused by unauthorized servicing, alterations or modifications of Browning firearms.

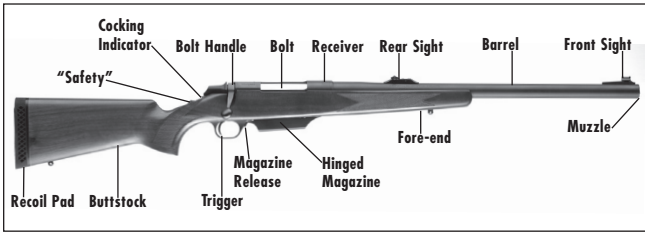
25 WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE SERVICE ON FIREARMS THAT HAVE BEEN ALTERED, ADDED TO OR SUBSTANTIALLY CHANGED.

Removal of metal from the barrel, or modifications of the firing mechanism and/or operating parts, may lead to a refusal of service on such firearms. We will charge you for parts and labor to return the firearm to original specifications.

DO NOT, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, ALTER THE TRIGGER, SAFETY OR OTHER PARTS OF THE FIRING MECHANISM OF THIS OR ANY OTHER FIREARM. FAILURE TO OBEY THIS WARNING MAY RESULT IN INJURY OR DEATH TO YOURSELF OR OTHERS.

BE CAREFUL!

FIGURE 1



GENERAL DESCRIPTION AND OPERATION

The Browning A-Bolt Shotgun is a bolt-action shotgun that operates by lifting the bolt handle, drawing the bolt rearward and then sliding the bolt forward and rotating the bolt downward until it stops. This process takes a shell from the magazine and loads it into the chamber for firing. The A-Bolt Shotgun's short, 60° bolt lift lets you cycle the action rapidly for quick follow-up shots. Because of the short lift of the bolt, there is ample scope clearance. Other significant features include a convenient detachable box magazine and thumb-operated top-tang "safety."

NOMENCLATURE

In conventional firearm terminology the position and movement of firearm parts are described as they occur with the firearm horizontal and in the normal firing position: i.e., the muzzle is forward or in front; the buttstock is rearward or to the rear; the trigger is downward or underneath; the sight is upward or on top. For general parts nomenclature, refer to Figure 1.

SERIAL NUMBER

The serial number of your firearm can be found on the right side of the receiver, in front of the bolt handle. Record this number in the space provided at the front of this owner's manual for future reference.

INITIAL CLEANING

NOTICE! **PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION BEFORE CLEANING YOUR FIREARM.**

CLEANING PARTS WITH SPECIAL FINISHES

Be especially careful when cleaning firearms with camouflage, Dura-Touch® Armor Coating and other special finishes. Always prevent these surfaces from coming in contact with cleaning solvents, barrel scrubbers and other strong chemicals. It is preferable to clean these surfaces with a lightweight gun oil containing no solvents, or with a damp cloth and mild dish soap (be sure to keep water out of the action). When cleaning your firearm's bore and action, protect the external finishes from any contact with chemicals used. Also, avoid any contact between external finishes and other strong chemicals like those found in DEET-containing insect repellents, sunscreens, etc. Damage to camouflage, Dura-Touch and other finishes caused by chemicals is irreversible and not repairable.

⚠WARNING

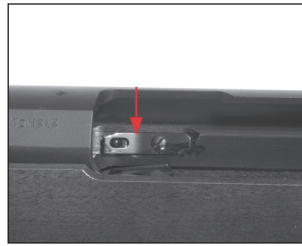
WEAR EYE PROTECTION WHEN CLEANING YOUR FIREARM TO PREVENT THE POSSIBILITY OF SOLVENTS OR OTHER AGENTS FROM CONTACTING YOUR EYES, RESULTING IN INJURY.

CLEANING

Various exposed metal parts of your new firearm have been coated at the factory with a rust preventative compound. Before firing your shotgun, clean the anti-rust compound from the inside of the barrel, receiver and the action/chamber areas. A high-quality lightweight gun oil is ideal for removing this compound, and for giving your new firearm its first lubrication. Clean the barrel using a cleaning rod and patch as explained under "Cleaning and Maintenance Suggestions" on page 26.

NOTICE! USE ADDITIONAL CARE WHEN CLEANING THE A-BOLT SHOTGUN. THE EJECTOR SPRING (FIGURE 2) PROTRUDES SLIGHTLY FROM THE SIDE OF THE RECEIVER AND CAN BE BENT OR DAMAGED WHEN A CLEANING ROD AND PATCH OR BRUSH ARE DRAWN PAST THE CHAMBER AND THROUGH THE RECEIVER.

FIGURE 2



Use care not to bend or damage the ejector spring.

OPERATION OF THE "SAFETY"

⚠WARNING

ALWAYS KEEP THE "SAFETY" IN THE ON SAFE POSITION UNLESS SHOOTING IS IMMINENT. ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

The "safety" is located on the top tang at the rear of the receiver. When the "safety" is drawn to the rear, the firearm is in the on safe position (Figure 3). This blocks the trigger and locks the bolt in the closed position. In this position an "S" appears in front of the "safety."

FIGURE 3

The "safety" shown in the on safe position.

FIGURE 4

The "safety" shown in the off safe position.

When the "safety" is pushed forward, the "S" will be covered and a red dot will appear indicating that the shotgun is in the "off safe" position and ready to fire (Figure 4, page 11).

⚠WARNING

DO NOT DEPEND ON THE RED COLOR ALONE TO INDICATE YOUR FIREARM'S SAFETY STATUS. TIME, EXPOSURE TO THE ELEMENTS, AND THE ABRASIVE ACTION OF CLEANING AGENTS CAN ERASE IT. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS WARNING COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

COCKING INDICATOR

Below the bolt shroud and ahead of the "safety" is a serrated cocking indicator. The indicator is painted red. When the shotgun is cocked it may be readily felt with the thumb as well as easily seen with a quick glance downward (Figure 5). When the shotgun is fired, the cocking indicator retracts into the bolt shroud and cannot be seen or felt.

FIGURE 5

The location of the cocking indicator.

⚠WARNING

DO NOT DEPEND ON THE RED COLOR ALONE TO INDICATE YOUR FIREARM'S SAFETY STATUS. TIME, EXPOSURE TO THE ELEMENTS, AND THE ABRASIVE ACTION OF CLEANING AGENTS CAN ERASE IT. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS WARNING COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

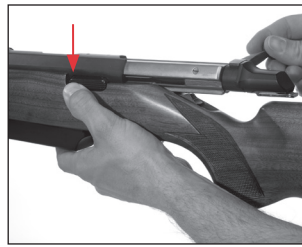
INSERTING AND REMOVING THE BOLT

⚠WARNING

ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION. BEFORE INSERTING OR REMOVING THE BOLT, VISUALLY INSPECT THE CHAMBER TO BE ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN THE FIREARM IS COMPLETELY UNLOADED.

PLACE THE "SAFETY" IN THE ON SAFE POSITION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS WARNING COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

FIGURE 6



Press the bolt stop and pull the bolt rearward.

INSERTING THE BOLT

The A-Bolt Shotgun comes packed in a foam-padded box with the bolt removed from the shotgun. To install the bolt into the receiver perform the following procedure:

1 Place the "safety" in the off safe position.

2 Align the forward end of the bolt in the rear opening of the receiver.

3 Push the bolt completely forward and rotate the handle down to lock it. It is not necessary to depress the bolt stop to insert the bolt, but you may do so to ease the installation (Figure 6).

4 Immediately place the "safety" in the on safe position. The firearm is now completely assembled and may be operated normally.

REMOVING THE BOLT

1 Place the "safety" in the off safe position.

2 Rotate the bolt handle upward.

3 The bolt stop is the horizontal bar on the left side of the receiver (Figure 6). Press inward on the front end of the bolt stop and carefully draw the bolt to the rear and out of the receiver.

NOTICE! **WHEN REMOVING THE BOLT FROM THE RECEIVER, TAKE CARE TO PREVENT THE COCKING INDICATOR FROM STRIKING AND DAMAGING THE COMB OF THE STOCK.**

AMMUNITION

⚠WARNING

USE ONLY SHELLS OF THE CORRECT GAUGE AND LENGTH. THE GAUGE AND LENGTH OF THE CHAMBER IS INSCRIBED ON THE SIDE OF THE BARREL. DO NOT USE AMMUNITION OTHER THAN WHAT IS INSCRIBED ON THE SIDE OF THE BARREL. EXAMINE EVERY SHELL YOU PUT IN YOUR SHOTGUN. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS WARNING COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH AND CAUSE DAMAGE TO YOUR SHOTGUN.

USE SHELLS OF THE CORRECT LENGTH. DO NOT USE 3" OR 3½" SHELLS IN A BARREL WITH A 2¾" OR 2½" CHAMBER, OR 3½" SHELLS IN A BARREL WITH A 3" CHAMBER. DOING SO CAN RESULT IN A BUILDUP OF DANGEROUSLY HIGH PRESSURES. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS WARNING COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH AND CAUSE DAMAGE TO YOUR SHOTGUN.

DO NOT PUT A 16 OR 20 GAUGE SHELL IN A 12 GAUGE SHOTGUN. DO NOT PUT A 28 GAUGE SHELL IN A 20 GAUGE SHOTGUN. DO NOT PUT A .410 BORE SHELL IN A 28 GAUGE SHOTGUN. NEVER PUT METALLIC SHELLS OF ANY KIND IN A SHOTGUN. SPECIFICALLY, NEVER PUT CENTERFIRE RIFLE OR PISTOL SHELLS IN A SHOTGUN CHAMBERED FOR .410 BORE. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS WARNING COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH AND CAUSE DAMAGE TO YOUR SHOTGUN.

The most certain way to bulge or rupture a shotgun barrel is to load a smaller gauge shell into a larger gauge chamber. The smaller gauge shell will not fall completely through the barrel; its rim is caught by the front of a larger gauge chamber or at the larger gauge's choke. Your shotgun will misfire (with the chamber appearing to be empty). It is then possible to load the correct gauge shell behind the smaller gauge shell. If the shotgun is then fired, the result will be a so-called "12-16, 12-20, 20-28 or 28-.410 burst" which can cause extensive damage to your shotgun and possible serious injury to you and others.

We can assume no responsibility for incidents which occur through the use of shells of nonstandard dimension or those developing pressures in excess of SAAMI (Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute) established standards.

A-Bolt Shotguns feature a 3" chamber and will shoot all factory 2¾" and 3" slug loads.

MAGAZINE CAPACITY

The A-Bolt Shotgun utilizes a detachable box magazine attached to a hinged floorplate. The capacity of the magazine is two shells. Another shell may be carried in the chamber, providing a total capacity of three shells. Remember, total capacity includes an additional shell which can be loaded in the chamber in addition to a full magazine.

LOADING

⚠WARNING

WHEN LOADING YOUR SHOTGUN ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION, ALWAYS PLACE THE "SAFETY" IN THE ON SAFE POSITION AND KEEP YOUR FINGERS AWAY FROM THE TRIGGER. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

DO NOT CARRY YOUR SHOTGUN WITH A SHELL IN THE CHAMBER TO AVOID ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE. WHEN FIRING IS NO LONGER IMMINENT, MAKE SURE THE "SAFETY" IS IN THE ON SAFE POSITION AND UNLOAD THE CHAMBER. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

LOADING THE MAGAZINE DETACHED FROM THE FLOORPLATE

1 Close the bolt and place the "safety" in the on safe position.

2 Press the magazine release in front of the trigger guard and allow the hinged floorplate-magazine unit to swing downward (Figure 7, page 16).

FIGURE 7

Press the magazine release.

FIGURE 8

Grasp the sides of the magazine and pull it from the floorplate.

3 Detach the magazine by grasping the sides of the magazine and pulling it off the hinged floorplate (Figure 8).

4 Once the magazine has been detached, it may be loaded by laying a shell on top of the follower, aligning the shell's rim with the rim slots and pressing the shell down and rearward until it is retained in the magazine. Load a subsequent shell into the magazine in the same manner.

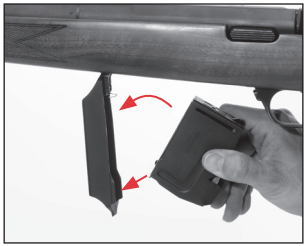
NOTICE! **THE BASE OF EACH SHELL MUST BE FLUSH WITH THE REAR OF THE MAGAZINE. IF THE FRONT OF A SHELL PROTRUDES BEYOND THE FRONT OF THE MAGAZINE, IT COULD CAUSE FEEDING PROBLEMS OR INTERFERE WHEN INSERTING THE MAGAZINE INTO THE SHOTGUN.**

5 Reattach the magazine by inserting the small lip on the rear of the magazine into the matching groove in the back end of the floorplate (Figure 9, page 17). Snap the front of the magazine firmly into place.

6 After loading the magazine, swing the floorplate and loaded magazine upwards until it is retained by the magazine catch.

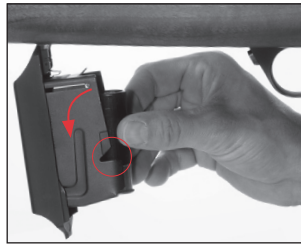
Extra magazines may be carried loaded for rapid replacement of an empty magazine using this same procedure.

FIGURE 9



Place the rear of the magazine into the floorplate, then rotate the top into position.

FIGURE 10



Place the rim of a shell in the rim slots and slide the shell to the rear of the magazine.

LOADING THE MAGAZINE WHEN ATTACHED TO THE FLOORPLATE

1 Close the bolt and place the "safety" in the on safe position.

2 Press the magazine release in front of the trigger guard and allow the hinged floorplate-magazine unit to swing downward (Figure 7, page 16).

3 Place a shell on top of the follower, align the shell's rim with the rim slots and press the shell down and rearward until it is retained in the magazine (Figure 10). Load a subsequent shell into the magazine in the same manner.

NOTICE! **THE BASE OF EACH SHELL MUST BE FLUSH WITH THE REAR OF THE MAGAZINE. IF THE FRONT OF A SHELL PROTRUDES BEYOND THE FRONT OF THE MAGAZINE, IT COULD CAUSE FEEDING PROBLEMS OR INTERFERE WHEN INSERTING THE MAGAZINE INTO THE SHOTGUN.**

4 After loading the magazine, swing the floorplate and loaded magazine upwards until it is retained by the magazine catch.

CONVENTIONAL MAGAZINE LOADING PROCEDURE

The A-Bolt Shotgun may also be loaded like most other bolt action firearms. With the bolt drawn open, shells are inserted into the magazine through the ejection port.

1 Place the "safety" in the off safe position.

2 Open the bolt.

3 Place a shell on top of the follower, align the shell's rim with the rim slots and press the shell down and rearward with your thumb until it is retained in the magazine. Load a subsequent shell into the magazine in the same manner.

NOTICE! **THE BASE OF EACH CARTRIDGE MUST BE FLUSH WITH THE REAR OF THE MAGAZINE. IF THE NOSE OF A CARTRIDGE PROTRUDES BEYOND THE FRONT OF THE MAGAZINE, IT COULD CAUSE FEEDING PROBLEMS OR INTERFERE WHEN INSERTING THE MAGAZINE INTO THE FIREARM.**

4 If you do not wish to load the chamber, depress the top shell with your finger and close the bolt. The bolt will slide over the top of the shell.

5 Immediately place the "safety" in the on safe position.

LOADING THE CHAMBER FROM THE MAGAZINE

1 Place the "safety" in the off safe position.

2 Open the bolt and inspect the chamber to ensure it is unloaded.

3 Close the bolt and place the "safety" in the on safe position.

4 Insert a loaded magazine into the magazine well.

5 Place the "safety" in the off safe position.

6 Cycle the bolt by pulling it fully to the rear and returning it forward. This operation picks-up a shell from the magazine and loads it into the chamber.

⚠WARNING

THE SHOTGUN IS NOW READY TO FIRE BY PULLING THE TRIGGER. IF SHOOTING IS NOT IMMINENT, IMMEDIATELY MOVE THE "SAFETY" TO THE ON SAFE POSITION.

7 You may now load the firearm to full capacity by loading an additional shell into the magazine as explained previously.

SINGLE SHOT LOADING DIRECTLY TO THE CHAMBER

You may also load your shotgun by placing a shell directly into the chamber. To load the shotgun in this manner, use the following loading procedure.

1 Insert an unloaded magazine into the firearm.

2 Pull the bolt rearward and inspect the chamber to make sure it is empty.

3 Insert a single shell through the ejection port and into the chamber.

4 Push the bolt completely forward and rotate the bolt handle down.

⚠WARNING

THE SHOTGUN IS NOW READY TO FIRE BY PULLING THE TRIGGER. IF SHOOTING IS NOT IMMINENT, IMMEDIATELY MOVE THE "SAFETY" TO THE ON SAFE POSITION.

FIRING

⚠WARNING

NEVER CHAMBER A SHELL OR MOVE THE "SAFETY" FROM THE ON SAFE POSITION UNLESS SHOOTING IS IMMINENT. ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

1 Load a shell into the chamber (as explained previously) by loading a shell from the magazine or directly to the chamber.

⚠WARNING

THE SHOTGUN IS NOW READY TO FIRE BY PULLING THE TRIGGER. IF SHOOTING IS NOT IMMINENT, IMMEDIATELY MOVE THE "SAFETY" TO THE ON SAFE POSITION.

2 With a shell in the chamber, you need only move the "safety" to the off safe position to make the firearm ready for firing. When ready to fire, move the "safety" into the off safe position, take aim and squeeze the trigger.

3 After a shell is fired, cycle the bolt rearward to eject the empty hull. If you wish to continue shooting, push the bolt fully forward. This picks up a loaded shell from the magazine and chambers it. You may continue to load and fire the firearm in this manner until the magazine is empty.

4 If you are done shooting, leave the bolt to the rear, with the breech in the open position so that you may visually inspect the chamber, bore and magazine to be sure they contain no shells.

⚠WARNING

AFTER FIRING, OR WHEN SHOOTING IS NO LONGER IMMINENT, IMMEDIATELY PLACE THE "SAFETY" IN THE ON SAFE POSITION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

EVEN WITH THE BOLT OPEN AFTER SHOOTING, DO NOT ASSUME THE FIREARM IS UNLOADED. ALWAYS INSPECT THE CHAMBER, BARREL, FEED MECHANISM AND MAGAZINE TO BE CERTAIN THE FIREARM IS COMPLETELY UNLOADED. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

UNLOADING

⚠WARNING

WHEN UNLOADING YOUR FIREARM ALWAYS PLACE THE "SAFETY" IN THE ON SAFE POSITION. KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION AND YOUR FINGERS AWAY FROM THE TRIGGER. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

ALWAYS INSPECT THE CHAMBER, BARREL AND MAGAZINE CAREFULLY AFTER UNLOADING TO BE SURE ALL LIVE SHELLS ARE CLEARED FROM THE FIREARM.

UNLOADING THE FIREARM

1 Open the bolt and eject any shell in the chamber. Leave the bolt in the rearward position with the action open.

2 Look into the chamber to verify that it is unloaded.

3 Press the magazine release button rearward and remove the magazine.

4 With the chamber empty and the magazine removed, close the bolt and place the "safety" in the on safe position.

5 Replace the empty magazine into the magazine well of the firearm.

UNLOADING THE MAGAZINE

1 Unload the magazine by pushing forward on the rim of the top shell and sliding each shell out, one at a time.

2 Unload any extra magazines.

SIGHT ADJUSTMENT

⚠WARNING

BEFORE PERFORMING SIGHT ADJUSTMENT PROCEDURES, MAKE SURE YOUR FIREARM IS COMPLETELY UNLOADED. REMOVE THE MAGAZINE, CHECK THE ACTION AND CHAMBER FOR SHELLS. KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

A-Bolt Shotguns include a fiber-optic front sight and a rear sight that is adjustable for both windage and elevation (Figure 11). Sight adjustment is a matter of trial and error. Make small adjustments and then check the point of impact.

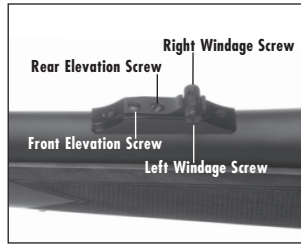
WINDAGE ADJUSTMENT

Windage adjustment is controlled by two screws, one on each side of the sight notch.

To move the point of slug impact to the left, loosen the screw on the right side of the sight by turning it counterclockwise and tighten the screw on the left side of the sight by turning it clockwise.

To move the point of slug impact to the right, loosen the screw on the left side of the sight by turning it counterclockwise and tighten the screw on the right side of the sight by turning it clockwise.

FIGURE 11



Sight adjustment screws for the rear sight.

ELEVATION ADJUSTMENT

Elevation adjustment is controlled by two screws on top of the forward part of the sight. To raise the point of slug impact, loosen the front screw by turning it counterclockwise and tighten the rear screw by turning it clockwise. To lower the point of slug impact, loosen the rear screw by turning it counterclockwise and tighten the front screw by turning it clockwise.

MOUNTING A SCOPE

⚠WARNING

BEFORE MOUNTING A SCOPE, SIGHT OR OTHER ACCESSORIES TO YOUR FIREARM, PLACE THE "SAFETY" IN THE ON SAFE POSITION. OPEN THE ACTION AND MAKE CERTAIN YOUR FIREARM IS COMPLETELY UNLOADED. KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

The A-Bolt Shotgun receiver is drilled and tapped for scope bases. From the factory, the scope base holes are fitted with filler screws.

NOTICE! **ALWAYS USE THE CORRECT BASES FOR THIS SHOTGUN AND THE APPROPRIATE LENGTH SCREWS.**

1 Place your shotgun in a gun vise or on a table or other safe/secure location with the top of the receiver upward. Protect the finish with rags or other padding.

2 You should have compatible one- or two-piece style bases and four screws of the correct length.

3 Clean all oil, grease or dirt from the receiver top and from the scope base parts.

4 Remove all four filler screws from the top of the receiver using a very small, thin-bladed gunsmithing-type screwdriver.

5 Pre-position the bases on the receiver top to determine the best orientation of the bases.

6 Insert the screws through the bases and screw them into the receiver top using the correct tool.

You must use screws of the appropriate length to ensure proper thread engagement. Once the bases are installed, check inside the receiver to verify that the base mounting screws are not too long and interfering with the operation of the bolt.

Many gunsmiths find it helpful to use a drop of serviceable thread locking compound to assure the screws stay tight. Make sure the thread locking compound does not get into the action.

Be careful to insure that the threads of each screw engage properly in the receiver to prevent stripping the threads in the receiver.

7 Tighten the screws snugly, but do not overtighten.

8 Mount your scope rings and scope as outlined in the instructions supplied with your scope rings and/or scope. Always make sure you have the proper eye relief.

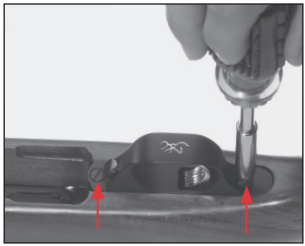
TRIGGER ADJUSTMENT

⚠WARNING

BEFORE ADJUSTING THE TRIGGER, ALWAYS PLACE THE "SAFETY" IN THE ON SAFE POSITION. KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION AND YOUR FINGERS AWAY FROM THE TRIGGER. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

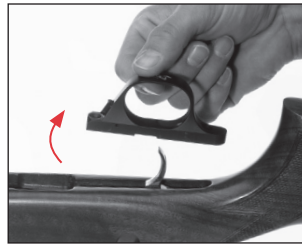
ALWAYS INSPECT THE CHAMBER, BARREL AND MAGAZINE CAREFULLY AFTER UNLOADING TO BE SURE ALL LIVE SHELLS ARE CLEARED FROM THE FIREARM.

FIGURE 12



Carefully loosen the screws that secure the trigger guard.

FIGURE 13



Carefully lift the trigger guard from the stock.

The A-Bolt Shotgun's trigger is pre-set at the factory. The trigger pull weight can be adjusted within a range of approximately 3 to 6.5 pounds. Though additional trigger adjustments should be unnecessary, the trigger pull weight can be tuned to your specifications by performing the following procedure:

1 Press the magazine release in front of the trigger guard and allow the hinged floorplate-magazine unit to swing downward.

2 Remove the magazine from the firearm.

3 Open the bolt and verify the firearm is unloaded.

4 Remove the two screws that retain the trigger guard with a standard screwdriver (Figure 12).

5 Lift the trigger guard out of the stock (Figure 13).

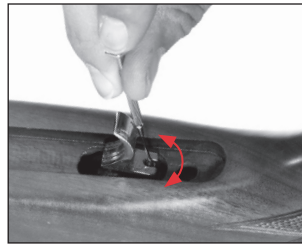
6 The trigger pull adjustment screw is located just behind the trigger (Figure 14). Use a small standard screwdriver to perform the adjustment.

- To increase the weight of the trigger pull, turn the adjustment screw in a counterclockwise direction.
- To decrease the weight of the trigger pull, turn the adjustment screw in a clockwise direction.

IMPORTANT: If trigger pull is increased too much, the trigger cannot be pulled. Turn the screw clockwise until the trigger can be pulled.

7 Trigger pull can be measured, with the firearm unloaded and the bolt closed, using a very accurate spring scale or a commercially available set of trigger pull measuring weights. Most gunsmiths can also measure trigger pull for you.

FIGURE 14



Turn the screw to adjust the trigger pull.

8 When finished making the adjustment, replace the trigger guard back in the stock and reinstall the trigger guard screws snugly.

CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE SUGGESTIONS

NOTICE! PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION BEFORE CLEANING YOUR FIREARM.

CLEANING PARTS WITH SPECIAL FINISHES

Be especially careful when cleaning guns with camouflage, Dura-Touch® Armor Coating and other special finishes. Always prevent these surfaces from coming in contact with cleaning solvents, barrel scrubbers and other strong chemicals. It is preferable to clean these surfaces with a light gun oil containing no solvents, or with a damp cloth and mild dish soap (be sure to keep water out of the action). When cleaning your firearm's bore and action, protect the external finishes from any contact with chemicals used. Also, avoid any contact between external finishes and other strong chemicals like those found in DEET-containing insect repellents, sunscreens, etc. Damage to camouflage, Dura-Touch and other finishes caused by chemicals is irreversible and not repairable.

⚠WARNING

BEFORE PERFORMING CLEANING PROCEDURES, PLACE THE "SAFETY" IN THE ON SAFE POSITION. OPEN THE ACTION AND MAKE CERTAIN YOUR SHOTGUN IS COMPLETELY UNLOADED. KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

⚠WARNING

WEAR EYE PROTECTION WHEN DISASSEMBLING AND CLEANING YOUR FIREARM TO PREVENT THE POSSIBILITY OF SPRINGS, SPRING-TENSIONED PARTS, SOLVENTS OR OTHER AGENTS FROM CONTACTING YOUR EYES, RESULTING IN INJURY.

⚠WARNING

KEEP ALL AMMUNITION AWAY FROM THE CLEANING AREA. NEVER TEST THE MECHANICAL FUNCTION OF YOUR SHOTGUN WITH LIVE AMMUNITION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

CLEANING PROCEDURES

Your A-Bolt Shotgun will function better and more reliably over a longer period of time if it is properly maintained and kept clean. Clean your firearm after every day of shooting, and more often if it becomes excessively dirty. A minimum cleaning includes wiping down the firearm and oiling key parts. Regular maintenance will also include cleaning the barrel.

If you encounter a function problem be sure to give your firearm a thorough cleaning to see if it solves the problem before seeking the services of a Browning Recommended Service Center or our Service Facility in Arnold, Missouri, or a qualified gunsmith.

1 Remove the bolt as explained previously.

2 Inspect the chamber and bore for powder fouling. A normal amount of powder residue can be expected and is not serious. It can usually be removed with a patch saturated with nitro solvent.

Use a cleaning rod with a tip and patch large enough for a snug fit in the bore. Insert the rod and patch into the barrel at the breech end and run it back and forth several times. Care should be exercised to ensure that the cleaning rod does not strike the crown of the muzzle, as damage to this area can affect the accuracy of your firearm. If, or when, fouling should become heavy, it can be removed with a bronze bore brush. Dip or spray the brush with nitro solvent and scrub the chamber and bore until the fouling is removed. To prevent bristles from breaking off, the brush should be pushed completely through the barrel before being withdrawn.

NOTICE! **USE ADDITIONAL CARE WHEN CLEANING THE A-BOLT SHOTGUN. THE EJECTOR SPRING (FIGURE 2, PAGE 11) PROTRUDES SLIGHTLY FROM THE SIDE OF THE RECEIVER AND CAN BE BENT OR DAMAGED WHEN A CLEANING ROD AND PATCH OR BRUSH ARE DRAWN PAST THE CHAMBER AND THROUGH THE RECEIVER.**

3 After all fouling has been removed, the chamber and bore should be wiped dry. When the bore is dry, pass a slightly oiled patch through it for preservation. A fine, light gun oil is recommended.

4 Inspect the barrel and chamber to be certain no patches have inadvertently been left in them. Remove any that remain.

5 Use a small brush or rag to remove dirt or other foreign matter from inside the receiver and other parts of the action. Lightly lubricate all moving parts with a high-quality, light gun oil. Use oil sparingly, a very light film is sufficient. A fine, light gun oil is ideally suited for this purpose.

NOTICE! **DO NOT POUR LARGE QUANTITIES OF OIL INTO THE RECEIVER OR OTHER PARTS. IT CAN DRAIN DOWN TO THE WOOD AND SOFTEN IT, CAUSING PERMANENT DAMAGE AND LOOSENING OF THE STOCK.**

6 Wipe all exposed metal surfaces with a lightly oiled cloth making certain that all finger marks are removed. Finger marks provide a place where moisture can accumulate. The metal of the firearm should receive a light film of oil any time it has been exposed to weather or handling.

7 Wood surfaces can also be wiped with a quality, lightweight gun oil or they can be polished with any quality furniture wax (but not both).

CLEANING THE MAGAZINE

Frequently inspect magazines to determine the need for cleaning as lubricant and dirt will gradually collect in the mechanism. Normally, the magazine should be cleaned after firing 500 to 1,000 shells.

1 Remove the magazine from the firearm as explained previously.

2 Slide the magazine bottom plate out to the rear (Figure 15).

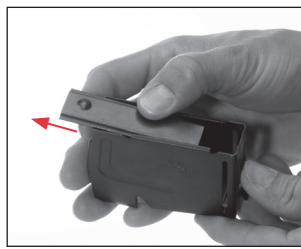
3 The magazine spring and follower can be removed for inspection.

4 Wipe off dirt and residue. Lightly oil and wipe clean again.

5 To assemble, insert the spring and follower, then slide the bottom plate into position.

NOTICE! **NEVER ATTEMPT TO TAKE YOUR FIREARM APART FURTHER THAN EXPLAINED IN THIS OWNER'S MANUAL. YOUR FIREARM IS A SPECIALIZED, FINELY FITTED MECHANISM. YOU MAY PERMANENTLY DAMAGE IT BY ATTEMPTING TO DISASSEMBLE THE INNER MECHANISM ASSEMBLIES. IF FURTHER DISASSEMBLY FOR SERVICE OR CLEANING IS REQUIRED, TAKE YOUR FIREARM TO A QUALIFIED GUNSMITH, OR CONTACT OUR ARNOLD, MISSOURI SERVICE FACILITY AS EXPLAINED UNDER "SERVICE AND REPAIR" ON PAGE 29.**

FIGURE 15



Disassemble the magazine by sliding the magazine plate to the rear.

SERVICE OR REPAIR

If your firearm should require service or repairs, we suggest you first contact a local recommended Browning Firearms Service Center. To locate a service center visit browning.com, contact our Customer Service Department or your Browning firearms dealer for the address of the Service Center nearest you. Otherwise, you may send your firearm directly to our Service Department in Arnold, Missouri.

Parts listings, Firearm Service Center lists, service procedures, service/repair form and general product information are also found on the internet at: browning.com. For technical questions about your firearm or service, contact:

United States customers contact:
Browning Firearm Status and Technical Service
One Browning Place
Arnold, MO 63010-9406
Phone: (800) 322-4626

Canadian customers contact:
Browning Canada Sports Ltd/Ltée
5583 Chemin St-François
St-Laurent, Quebec H4S 1W6
Phone: (514) 333-7261

When returning your firearm for servicing, you must do the following:

1 Be sure it is completely unloaded.

2 Remove the scope or other optics.

3 Package it securely in a cardboard container.

4 Enclose the service/repair form available at browning.com or a letter that clearly describes the trouble experienced, the ammunition used and the repairs desired. Also include your name and a daytime phone number where you can be reached.

5 If convenient, send a copy of the service/repair form or letter to us separately.

6 Never return ammunition with your firearm. It is against postal and most commerce regulations.

NOTES

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BROWNING US: Morgan, Utah 84050-9326
BROWNING CANADA: Browning Canada Sports Ltd/Ltée, St-Laurent, Quebec, H4S 1W6
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